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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	09/032,863
Filing Date	3/2/98
First Named Inventor	Grigor et al.
Art Unit	2674
Examiner Name	K. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	0100.01117

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Firm or Individual name	Timothy J. Bechen Reg. No. 48,126
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33/leg for reconsideration 12-983  
PATENT APPLICATION 12-983  
NY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Grigor et al.  
Serial No.: 09/032,863  
Filing Date: March 2, 1998  
Confirmation No.: 1397

Examiner: K. Nguyen  
Art Unit: 2674  
Our File No.: 00100.98.1117  
Docket No.: 0100.01117

Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONFIGURING MULTIPLE DISPLAYS  
ASSOCIATED WITH A COMPUTING SYSTEM**

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Dear Sir:

**AFTER FINAL RESPONSE**

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In response to a final Office Action mailed October 1, 2003. Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

**Rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Claims 24, 29, 31-33, 38, 40-46, 48-52 and 56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,980,678 ("Zenda"). Applicants respectfully traverse and submit that the rejection is improper as Zenda fails to disclose all of the claimed limitations claimed herein.

As asserted by the Examiner on page 9 of the present Office Action, regarding claims 24, 33, 42 and 49, the Examiner asserts that Zenda teaches the D flip-flop 59 controls the gates 55 and 57 to determine whether the display preferences can be fulfilled in observance of configuration properties of the two displays or configuration properties of a computing system and the Examiner further asserts that "the D flip-flop 59 that controls the gates 55 and 57 (switches 55 and 57) for determining whether a current configuration of two displays CRT 19 and PDP 21 to the computing system can be reconfigured such that the display preferences can be fulfilled while maintaining effective configuration of the current configuration when the

display preferences cannot be fulfilled.” The Examiner asserts that these limitations are supported by FIGs. 11A and 11B and the discussion on col. 6, line 61-col. 8, line 14. Applicants respectfully traverse and submit that the Examiner has improperly applied the teachings of Zenda in view of the claimed limitations.

Upon closer inspection, the Examiner has asserted that the D flip-flop 59 in conjunction with the gates 55 and 57 disclose the limitation of determining whether a current configuration of the multiple displays to the computing system can be reconfigured such that the display preferences can be fulfilled while maintaining effective configuration of the current configuration when the display preferences cannot be fulfilled. As previously asserted and reasserted herein, the elements to which the Examiner assigns such functionality is by the very definition of Zenda a flip-flop 59 that receives a setting command which is a set or reset signal (see col. 6, lines 32-35) and the write control gates 55 and 57 are connected to pallets 12 and 14 and “alternately enable to selectively perform right access of pallet data (multicolor display pallet data/gradation display pallet data) and corresponding pallet, wherein these gates are controlled by the flip-flop 59 (see col. 6, lines 25-30). By its very nature, gates 55 and 57 perform a binary operation of either allowing a first signal, e.g. multicolor display pallet data, or a second signal e.g., gradation display pallet data in response to an input signal from the flip-flop 59. Therefore, by this specific definition of performing a passive binary function of allowing one output in response to a predetermined input from the flip-flop 59, the gates 55 and 57 by their very nature cannot perform the claimed limitations of “determining whether a current configuration of the multiple displays of the computing system can be reconfigured.”

While Applicants appreciate the Examiner’s response to argument section on page 9 of the present Office Action, it is submitted that this response does not provide any further support for the present rejection but only reiterates the improper analysis the Examiner has made and the improper characterizations with regard to the teachings of Zenda. Further in support of the improper characterization, the Examiner cites Figures 11A and 11B which discloses, *inter alia*, the series operation of the CRT palette 12 and the PDP palette 14. These embodiments illustrate determining if a specific palette is selected and if there is an alteration of a palette color. If there is an alteration of the palette color, the pallet is rewritten (steps 81 and 87). These steps **DO**

**NOT** disclose determining whether a current configuration of the two displays can be reconfigured, but only rather if the **ARE** to be reconfigured. Therefore, the determination step is not performed and this step is not within the operations of the flip flop 59 and gates 55 and 57 and these elements cannot perform the step of determining, but only rather provide a solitary binary output of YES or NO for palette colors.

For further proof, Applicants direct the Examiner to these **VERY** language which reads:

**STEP 75 : "IS CRT SELECTED?"**

**STEP 77 : "DISPLAY DATA ON CRT IN 64-COLOR DISPLAY MODE USING A CRT PALLET**

**STEP 79 : "ALTERATION OF PALLET COLOR?"**

**STEP 81 : "REWRITE CRT PALLET"**

**STEP 85 : "ALTERATION OF GRADATION?"**

**STEP 87 : "REWRITE PDP PALLET"**

**STEP 89 : "IS PDP SELECTED?"**

These steps all disclose, *inter alia*, a straight forward single input single output based on the position of the gates 55 and 57 from the set/reset signal from the flip flop 59 and do NOT perform a determination of whether a current configuration can be reconfigured. Rather, Zenda merely discloses to rewrite pallets based on the set/reset input signal from the flip flop and neither the flip flop nor the gates makes the determination as claimed.

Therefore, it is submitted the present rejection is improper as Zenda fails to teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations. As such, reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

Means Plus Function Claims

Regarding claims 33 and 38-41, Applicants respectfully submit the present rejection is improper as the Examiner has not provided the requisite support for the present rejection in accordance with the Supplemental Examination Guidelines for Determining the Applicability of 35 U.S.C. §112, paragraph six 65 FR 38510, FR Vol. 65, No. 120, June 21, 2000 hereinafter referred to as "Guidelines." It is respectfully submitted the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of unpatentability for these claims as the Examiner has failed to follow the relevant Guidelines.

For the sake of brevity, Applicants refer back to pages 10-12 of the previously filed response regarding these guidelines. It is submitted that the Examiner has not addressed these guidelines in support of the rejection of claims 33 and 38-41. Furthermore, the Examiner has not addressed this issue in the "Response to Arguments" section of the present office action even though the Guidelines clearly delineate that the Examiner must follow the Guidelines to support such rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, P6. In the present response, Applicants requests the Examiner to conduct such analysis, which has not been performed in accordance with the Guidelines. Therefore, Applicants submit the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn, or in the alternative, the finality of the present rejection should be withdrawn and the claims rejected in proper format as denoted by the Guidelines.

Regarding claims 29, 31-32, 38, 40-41, 43-46 and 48-49, is respectfully submitted that these claims contain further limitations which are not anticipated by Zenda, as discussed above. Furthermore, it is submitted that these claims, as being dependent upon an allowable base claim, provide allowable patentable subject matter and are allowable not merely as being dependent upon an allowable base claim, but provide further patentable subject matter in view of the prior art of record. As such, it is submitted the rejection is not longer proper and should be withdrawn.

Regarding claims 50-53, Applicant submits that these claims contain further patentable subject matter in view of the prior art of record and are allowable not merely as being dependent upon an allowable base claim. It is submitted the rejection is no longer proper as claim 49 is allowable and these claims are allowable as providing further patentable subject matter in view

AF Response dated December 1, 2003

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of the prior art of record and not merely as being dependent upon an allowable base claim. As such, reconsideration and withdrawal is requested.

Regarding claim 56, Applicants assert confusion, as Applicant is not aware of a currently pending claim 56 in the present application. Therefore, it is submitted the rejection is moot as there is no currently pending claim 56 and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 30, 39 and 47, currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zenda in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,559,525. Applicant traverses and submits the rejection is improper as claims 30, 39, 47 and 53 contain further patentable subject matter in view of allowable claims 24, 33, 42 and 49. It is submitted these claims contain further patentable subject matter and are allowable, not merely as being dependent upon an allowable base claim. Regardless thereof, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertions regarding the teachings of these prior art references with respect to present claims and resubmit that these claims contain further patentable subject matter in view of the prior art of record.

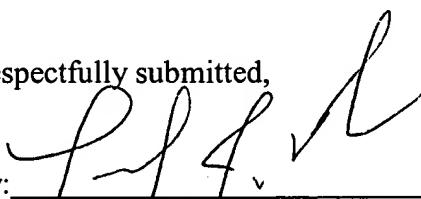
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Date: December 1, 2003

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